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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: **Josep B. Villá et al.** § Group Art Unit: **unassigned**  
Serial No.: **10 / 551,586** §  
Date Filed: **September 30, 2005** § Examiner: **unassigned**  
Title: **Self-locking Shaft** § Atty Docket No.: **B31359US**

Mail Stop DD  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Signature Raymond R. Ferrera  
Date November 17, 2005

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Enclosed for filing relating to the above-identified application are the following documents:

- Information Disclosure Statement;
- Form PTO-1449; and
- Return-receipt postcard.

No fee is believed to be due with the submission of this document; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2511 for any underpayment of the fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Nov. 17, 2005  
Date

Raymond R. Ferrera  
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Signature Yong J. Ho  
Date November 17, 2005

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith are patents, publications or other information of which the undersigned is aware, which he believes may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56 it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is in fact "material" or "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g) the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months after the filing date of a national application, within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 CFR 1.97(b).

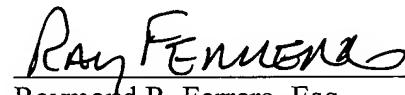
A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each item listed on PTO-1449 is not supplied herewith. A concise explanation of the items listed on PTO-1449 is not given.

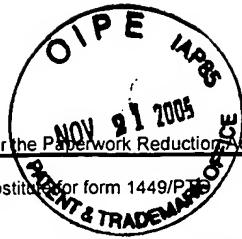
The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information in the attorney's file.

Respectfully submitted,

Nov. 17, 2005

Date

  
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Substitute for form 1449/P

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/551,586
Filing Date	September 30, 2005
First Named Inventor	Josep B. Villa
Art Unit	unknown
Examiner Name	unknown
Attorney Docket Number	B31359US

Sheet 1 of 1

Attorney Docket Number B31359US

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		WO 94/07040	03-31-1994			
		FR 2 796 012 A1	01-12-2001			
		DE 198 48 289 A1	06-02-1999			
		GB 2 377 376 A	01-15-2003			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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